436 but never less, though sometimes they are equal. Transfer of
439 bullion is more common from Mukalla to Aden than from Aden
457 to Mukalla.

Interest.

•1152 Money can be had at 10 per cent. interest on mortgages, and
426 a few of the big Arabs obtain their wealth from this source. Goods are sold on a period of one month's credit and a percentage is calculated on this basis. Sometimes when cultivators have been unable to sell their tobacco the merchants have to wait for their payment for two to six months, and charge four to eight annas per cent. on the goods, or one rupee on people who are unable to pay for a long time. In Shibam 5 per cent. interest is charged on borrowed money. Interest transactions are of course disguised in order to avoid the Quranic precepts against usury.

Foreign Trade.

439 The total value of the foreign trade (in merchandise) of the Hadhramaut in 1352 is estimated at over Rs.6,000,000. The chief exports are: tobacco, honey and fish products. The chief imports are: dates, flour, rice, goats and sheep, piece goods, simsim, jowari and kerosene.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

	Quantity.	*Rate.*	*Value.* (1353 prices.)
Fish products: *Sermai* (split and salted fish) pieces.	10,000 to 15,000	$28 to 60 per 100	$2,800 to $4,200
Goats and sheep, Nos. ...	20,000 to 30,000	Rs. 6 or 7 each	Rs. 120,000.
Dates. Basra. *Qosra* ...	20,000 to 30,000	Rs. 4/8 to Rs. 6/8	Rs. 110,000
Oman, *Jerab* (six *frasilas*)	1,000	Rs. 6	Rs. 6,000
Flour, bags	10,000 Mukalla & Shihr.	French Rs. 10/4 Karachi Rs. 10/8 to Rs. 11/-	Rs. 102,500
Rice, bags	75,000 to 85,000 Mukalla & Shihr.	Rs. 11/-	Rs. 825,000
Building Poles (*borities*), scores.	400 to 500	Rs. 7–25 a score according to quality.	*
Simsim, bags	15,000 Mukalla & Shihr.	Rs. 60–67 a *bahar* of 570 lbs.	Rs. 900,000
Jowari, bags	70,000 to 80,000	Rs. 6–8·8	Rs. 420,000
Piece Goods Japanese bales	1,000	Rs. 130	Rs. 130,000
Others ...	Very few		
Kerosene, cases	26,000 to 30,000 Mukalla & Shihr.	Rs. 6	Rs. 156,000
Petrol, cases	1,200 Mukalla & Shihr.	Rs. 9	Rs. 10,800.
Tea, cases of 90 to 100 lb.	1,200 to 1,300 Mukalla & Shihr.	Up to Rs. 3 a lb.	Rs. 125,000
Coffee, bags of 5–10 *frasilas*	1,500	Jelal, Rs. 7 Majbura, Rs. 2–3	Rs. 30,000

* None imported in 1353.

5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office (3)-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden
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134 are generally of good-quality alluvium. In high-altitude districts less fertile soils are found and they are generally light in texture, except in some limestone areas where they are heavy and intractable.

31- (*b*) *Water supplies* are generally good and sufficient for the needs of cultivators who tend to concentrate in the river-valley areas or in the highland areas where some rainfall can be expected. Water becomes scarce in the Eastern districts where the settled country emerges into the Empty Quarter. Domestic water supplies are obtained from springs, wells, dams, tanks and cisterns.

(*c*) *Irrigation and drainage systems* are highly developed. At high altitudes the run-off is led to terraces in order to boost the rainfall which is insufficient in itself for crop production. Flood irrigation systems are found in the river valleys and on the coastal plain. Irrigation from permanent streams and springs is highly developed. Artificial irrigation is from open wells. Animal power lifts are worked at depths of 10 to 60 feet and in the most favourable districts command up to 10 per cent. of the total arable area.

241 (*d*) *Mechanical cultivation* is confined to one small unit used by the Abyan Board in the Abyan district. Elsewhere the simple Arabian plough, combined levelling-board and scraper, harrow and a drill attachment for the plough comprise the implements used by the cultivator.

(*e*) *Application of fertilisers.* Organic fertilisers only are used. Farmyard manure is commonly used in all mid-altitude and highland districts. Farmyard manure, human excreta and town wastes are used in the Hadhramaut. Fish and guano are commonly used in the Eastern Protectorate coastal areas.

Land Tenure

423 (*a*) Customary tribal law and Shari'a law affect land tenure.

(*b*) Individual ownership is the common and most-desired form of tenancy; share tenancy is the usual form of leashold tenure.

(*c*) His Majesty's Government owns no land in the Aden Protectorate. Some of the Arab states hold extensive tracts of land as state domain. All the land is held by indigenous inhabitants except for a very small percentage held by Yemeni settlers and a few Indians and Somalis.

Agricultural Credit

● 452 There are no banks in the Aden Protectorate. One small Farmers' Association giving credit assistance to its members was formed during 453 the year. The Department of Agriculture, the local Governments, and in the Wadi Hadhramaut a Relief Organisation afforded assistance to farmers with interest-free loans.

FISHERIES

654 A visit in February by the Fisheries Adviser to the Secretary of State 226 for the Colonies resulted in the arrival of a fisheries research party in

6:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut 11 1/2

the management of irrigation farming on some 5,000 acres. The value of the Board's quarter-share of the net crop obtained, after paying harvesting and threshing expenses in kind, was estimated at over Rs. 1,25,000.

Farming in Abyan, largely influenced by the Board's operations, proved important to the economy of the Western Aden Protectorate. In the production of millet alone, it is estimated that a 30,000 bag crop, equal to 3,000 metric tons, was raised. A large portion of this was held as a reserve, or had been marketed to the easterly districts at the end of the year. General control on the export of this grain to Aden itself was maintained, and the flow of the crop to the districts to the east was encouraged.

The Wadi Hadhramaut Rehabilitation Scheme

This was wound up by Government at the end of the 1947–48 financial year. Farmers with outstanding loans were given ten years in which to repay, the basis of repayment being at the rate of 2 per cent of the total loan from the spring crop, 3 per cent from the autumn crop, and 5 per cent from the winter crop grown. By the end of the year, it was apparent that this system of deferred repayment was not proving satisfactory. Moneylenders had again become active, while late planting and reduced acreage were noticeable in many districts. This undoubtedly resulted from lack of foresight on the part of many farmers, who had failed to reserve sufficient seed and fodder and preferred to resort to moneylenders for obtaining their needs on credit.

At the end of the year, proposals were on hand for the introduction of numbers of diesel-driven irrigation pumps for use in the Wadi Hadhramaut.

Co-operation

The Beihan Farmers' Association, formed in the previous year, progressed in a satisfactory manner, and much useful experience was gained by the officials of the association. A good *saif* season helped the members, but this was followed by an almost complete lack of water in the *kharif*. In spite of these difficulties, the association was able to help its members in their requirements of seed, stock, and cash needed for well equipment and for concentrates for feeding livestock. At the end of the year, the association had acquired some Rs. 12,000 from members' subscriptions and from interest charged on loans.

This association cannot be termed a co-operative society in the true sense of the word. It is an association which has the full support of the local Government, and which at present makes use of Government offices and storehouses for its activities. In the present stage of development this is considered to be the most desirable form of association for Beihan.

Western Aden Protectorate

The Western Aden Protectorate fisheries are of minor importance compared with those of the Eastern Protectorate. Shuqra, the seat of the Fadhli Sultan, is, however, a fishing port with a considerable export trade in dried fish

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
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Agricultural Extension and Improvement Schemes

654 The main development scheme for irrigated land use is that in Abyan. A note on the scheme is given in Appendix I, page 84.

248 406 241 The extension work of the Department of Agriculture is carried on through departmental staff and through State agricultural departments where these exist. Extension work at the moment is mainly confined to a few selected subjects such as cotton growing, fruit and vegetable growing, and lift irrigation by pump.

Cotton Growing Schemes (other than at Abyan). Long-staple X.1730A cotton was introduced for cultivation to the Yeramis district, and from an area of approximately 400 acres some 472,665 lb. of seed cotton were marketed.

In Ahwar, where X.1730A cotton was grown for the second season, 436,311 lb. of seed cotton were marketed from an effective area of 400 acres.

The Hadhramaut Pump Scheme. In the Hadhramaut there has been considerable development of lift irrigation by diesel-engine pumping units since 1948. It is claimed that 389 pump units with an estimated total horse-power of 3,640 have now been introduced. A large percentage of the units have been sold by the Hadhramaut States to local farmers on a deferred payment scheme.

In 1952 pump units irrigated 37 per cent of the total area under lift irigation in the Hadhramaut. The average area irrigated per pump unit is estimated at 8.3 acres as compared with 2 acres by animal lift. The yield from pump irrigated crops in nearly all cases is found to exceed comparable animal lift irrigated crops. The schemes may be criticised on account of the high horse-power used for the irrigated area, but on the other hand with less working hours per day the machinery should theoretically last longer.

Credit Facilities

452 In the Western Protectorate advances have been made through Farmers' Associations, through the Abyan Board and through local States to assist farmers. In the Eastern Protectorate, particularly the Hadhramaut, large sums of money have been advanced since 1944 to enable farmers, or groups of farmers, to maintain local irigation systems and to help farmers to buy pumping machinery by hire purchase. Little or no progress can be made in the development of agriculture without credit facilities.

Agricultural Department

647 The staff comprises the Director of Agriculture, four Agricultural Officers, one Assistant Agricultural Officer and nine Agricultural Instructors.

The Department is responsible for giving advice on agriculture and, in many areas, for the organisation and administration of agricultural development projects. During the financial year 1952–53 it budgetted to spend £19,000.